Optical Fibre Network

*175. SHRIMATI G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether optical fibre has been laid in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the network is being put to adequate use;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total of 5,36,121 route Kilometres of Optical fibre cable has been laid in various parts of the country by Government PSUs and by the private operators. The details of cable laid are furnished as under:—

BSNL	4,06,812 route kilometres
MTNL	7,483 route kilometres
Railtel Corporation Ltd.	20,876 route kilometres
Power Grid Corporation Ltd.	4,800 route kilometres
Gas Authority of India Ltd.	8,000 route kilometres
Private operators	88,150 route kilometres

(c) and (d) The optical fibre cable is used to interconnect the telephone exchanges for providing local telephone calls as well as national and international telephone calls. Also the cable is used to meet the bandwidth requirements for providing data and internet services.

(e) Not applicable in view of (c) and (d) above.